CONFIDENTIAL.] No. 2 of 1883.

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 13th January 1883.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	BENGALI.			
	Monthly.			
1	"Bhárat Shramajíví"	Calcutta ...	2,100	
	Fortnightly.			
2	"Bhárat Hitaishí"	Burrisal ...	.....	
3	"Sansodhiní"	Chittagong ...	600	
4	"Purva Pratidhwani"	Ditto ...	.....	
5	"Játíya Suhrid"	Calcutta ...	.....	
6	"Tripurá Vártávaha"	Commillah ...	.....	
	Weekly.			
7	"Ananda Bazar Patriká"	Commillah ...	700	1st January 1883.
8	"Arya Darpan"	Ditto ...	.....	
9	"Bangabásí"	Ditto ...	.....	
10	"Bártábaha"	Pubna ...	.....	
11	"Bhárat Bandhu"	Calcutta ...	.....	
12	"Bhárat Mihir"	Mymensing ...	671	2nd and 9th January 1883.
13	"Bengal Advertiser"	Calcutta ...	2,000	
14	"Bardwán Sanjívaní"	Burdwan ...	296	
15	"Cháruvártá"	Sherepore, Mymensing	.....	8th January 1883.
16	"Dacca Prakásh"	Dacca ...	350	7th ditto.
17	"Dút"	Calcutta ...	.....	
18	"Education Gazette"	Hooghly ...	745	
19	"Grámvártá Prakáshiká"	Comercolly ...	.....	
20	"Halisahar Prakáshiká"	Calcutta ...	.....	
21	"Hindu Ranjiká"	Beauleah, Rájsháhye...	200	
22	"Mediní"	Midnapore ...	.....	
23	"Murshidábád Patriká"	Berhampore ...	487	
24	"Murshidábád Pratinidhi"	Ditto ...	.....	
25	"Navavibhákar"	Calcutta ...	850	8th January 1883.
26	"Paridarshak"	Sylhet ...	.....	
27	"Pratikár"	Berhampore ...	275	
28	"Rajshahye Samvád"	Beauleah ...	.....	
29	"Rungpore Dik Prakásh"	Kakiniá, Rungpore ...	250	
30	"Sádháraní"	Chinsurah ...	500	7th January 1883.
31	"Sahachar"	Calcutta ...	500	10th ditto.
32	"Som Prakásh"	Changripottá,24-Perghs.	.....	8th ditto.
33	"Sudhákar"	Mymensing ...	.....	
34	"Sulabha Samáchár"	Calcutta ...	4,000	
35	"Sríhatta Prakásh"	Sylhet ...	440	
	Daily.			
36	"Samvád Prabhákar"	Calcutta ...	700	
37	"Samvád Púrnachandrodaya"	Ditto ...	300	
38	"Samáchár Chandriká"	Ditto ...	625	
39	"Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká"	Ditto ...	500	
40	"Prabhátí"	Ditto ...	.....	
41	"Samáchár Sudhábarsan"	Ditto ...	.....	
	ENGLISH AND URDU.			
	Weekly.			
42	"Urdu Guide"	Calcutta ...	365	16th January 1883.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
	HINDI.			
	Weekly.			
43	"Behár Bandhu"	Bankipore, Patna ...	500	
44	"Bhárat Mitra"	Calcutta ...	500	4th January 1883.
45	"Sár Sudhánidhi"	Ditto ...	200	1st ditto.
46	"Uchit Baktá"	Ditto ...	.....	30th December 1882.
	PERSIAN.			
	Weekly.			
47	"Jám-Jahán-numá"	Calcutta ...	250	5th January 1883.
	URDU.			
	Weekly.			
48	"Akhbár-i-Darussaltanat"	Calcutta ...	.....	
	Bi-Weekly.			
49	"Amir-ul-Akhbár"	Calcutta ...	.....	2nd January 1883.
	ASSAMESE.			
	Monthly.			
50	"Assam Vilásiní"	Sibsagar ...	.....	
	URIYA.			
	Weekly.			
51	"Utkal Dípiká"	Cuttack ...	200	23rd & 30th December 1882.
52	"Utkal Darpan"	Balasore ...	160	
53	"Balasore Samvad Váhika"	Ditto ...	125	21st & 28th December 1882.
54	"Purusottam Patriká"	Pooree ...	.....	
	Fortnightly.			
55	"Mayurbhunj Pákshik Pátriká" ...	Mayurbhunj ...	.....	
	HINDI.			
	Monthly.			
56	"Kshatriya Patriká"	Patna ...	.....	

Public Administration.

The school-book monopoly in Behar and the North-Western Provinces.

THE *Sársudhanidhi* of 1st January says that the preparation of Hindi books for use in the schools of Behar is now virtually a monopoly, and that the books which are prepared by others than the men who are appointed for the purpose by Baboo Bhudeb Mookerjee are seldom or never adopted by the educational authorities. A similar monopoly is complained as existing in the North-Western Provinces, where vernacular educational books for schools are only selected from among the publications of Lakshmi Sankar, M.A. These monopolies ought to be put an end to.

SAR SUDHANIDHI, January 1st, 1883.

The Patna case.

2. The *Ananda Bazar Patrika* of 1st January condemns all the proceedings in the case of Azimuddin Chaudhuri of Pubna as illegal and inconsiderate, and considers that there was no case against Azimuddin, and that the aged man has been imprisoned without any cause. The case is commented upon as one of arbitrary oppression, which, like some other cases that have recently occurred, such as the Chittagong case, demands consideration at the hands of Government.

ANANDA BAZAR PATRIKA, January 1st, 1883.

Trial of European offenders.

3. The *Bharat Mihir* of the 2nd January notices with regret the failure of justice which often occurs when Englishmen are tried in criminal courts for offences committed by them on natives of this country. So many are the instances of such failure that whenever an European offender is concerned people fear that justice will not be done. The editor then refers to the Shaharunpore case and the case of Hawkins, who was tried in the Allahabad High Court for the murder of Hossein Bux, as cases confirming the worst apprehensions of the people.

BHARAT MIHIR, January 2nd, 1883.

Date-juice as an exciseable article.

4. The *Dacca Prakash* of the 7th January condemns the proposal of the Bengal Legislative Council to tax fresh date-juice as an exciseable article. Such a tax, it is believed, will press hard upon many a poor man in Eastern Bengal, to whom the date-tree furnishes the only livelihood and luxury. The editor can say from his own experience that in that part of the country people know not how to prepare tari from date-juice. The Lieutenant-Governor himself acknowledges that the fresh date-juice and *tari* are not the same thing, yet it is not easy to understand why he wishes to class such juice with *tari*.

DACCA PRAKASH, January 7th, 1883.

A band of thieves.

5. A correspondent of the same paper draws the attention of the authorities to the existence of a band of habitual thieves at Khejurtala, Keranirbat, Nyayamaterkandi, Hoglar Math and Rastamkhanr Kandi, and hopes that Baboo Syama Charan Ganguli, Inspector of Police, will make an effort to extirpate them.

DACCA PRAKASH.

Causes of disputes between landlords and tenants.

6. The *Sadharani* of the 7th January contends that Sir Richard Garth has not understood the cause of the disputes between landlords and tenants. The Chief Justice has stated that when two rival zemindars appear, each secures a number of ryots, and the rest suffer from the contentions of the two parties. This is one of the principal causes of disputes between landlords and tenants. As a remedy for this state of things he proposes that the ryots should only pay rents to the zemindars who have registered their names, and that no question as to the rights of parties should be allowed to be adjudicated upon in suits

SADHARANI, January 7th, 1883.

for arrears of rent. The *Sadharani*, however, thinks that the true cause of the disputes between landlords and tenants is the enhancement of the rent rate by the landlord, and in support of his position cites from the *Midini* newspaper a number of cases that occurred in Midnapore khas mehals.

CHARU VARTA, January 8th, 1883.

The Dulai case.

7. Referring to the action of the police in the affray at Dulai, in Pubna, the *Charuvarta* of the 8th January observes as follows:—"Those whose duty it is to preserve the peace went forward to steep their hands in human blood. Is not this British empire? Are not the people living under the rule of Mr. Thompson and Lord Ripon? Why Pubna alone? Whole Bengal has been horrified at this intelligence. We pray to Government for justice. How long will this country be illtreated, insulted, and oppressed by the police? Cannot Government see that owing to the oppressions of the police our sufferings have reached their climax? Is there no remedy for this?"

CHARU VARTA.

Inconvenience of the suitors at Sherpore.

8. The same paper complains that much inconvenience is caused to the suitors at Sherpore, in Mymensing, in consequence of the Moonsif of the place being sometimes deputed by the District Judge to Hosseinpore for clearing up the files there.

SOM PRAKASH, January 8th, 1883.

Enhancement of rent in Government khas mehals and the Rent-Bill.

9. In an article on the enhancement of rent in Government khas mehals, the *Somprakash* of 8th January quotes a letter from a correspondent, who says that rent has been unduly enhanced by Government in mehal Jalamutha, in the district of Midnapore, and that the tenants of the mehal have had accordingly to resort to litigation. The litigation being not yet concluded, and the tenants being unwilling to pay rent until it is over, arrears for four or five years have become due from them. The pressure of their debt has therefore become very heavy; and as the majority of them are poor, they are altogether in a sad plight. But although their condition is so critical, oppressive measures are being taken to recover rent from them. Four cases are mentioned, in which, by order of certain Government officers and under the authority of certificates under the Public Demands Recovery Act, the houses of certain tenants have been pulled down and destroyed, female apartments have been entered into, furniture has been seized, and domestic utensils have been snatched away from the hands of the women. The cases mentioned have occurred in the villages of Haludbari, Patna, Birulia, and Benipur, respectively. The writer of the article thinks that acts like the pulling down of houses and the cutting up of thatches have never before been heard of, are thoroughly arbitrary, and ought to be strictly enquired into by Government.

The writer also thinks that as enhancement of rent is a proceeding which, besides causing harassment, produces ill-feeling between the landlord and the tenant, and is viewed with positive dislike by the latter, who prefers paying a heavy casual abwab to having even a pice added permanently to his rent, the Government cannot, now that the Rent-Bill is under its consideration, do anything better than fix once for all a permanent and unalterable rate of rent for estates which are its own property as well as for those which are owned by private landlords. Periodical alterations of rent are condemned as being not only a source of hardship and harassment to the ryot, but of increased expenditure to the Government and the private landlord. It is also remarked that land in this country remains almost in a uniform condition throughout, good and bad harvests in alternation producing an average which is seldom materially affected. Government should therefore restrain its greed and give up the idea of gaining much by

means of periodical settlements with its tenants. A fixed and permanent rate of rent for the tenants of Government and private landlords would establish peace and harmony between landlord and tenant, put an end to quarrel, harassment, and expenditure, and ensure agricultural prosperity by giving the tenant a substantial interest in his tenure.

Crimes of European soldiers in India.

10. The same paper says, with reference to the very serious offences which are from time to time committed by European soldiers against life and female honour in this country, that the existing machinery for putting them down is very imperfect and unsatisfactory. The police fear European soldiers, and cannot therefore interfere against them. Then, again, cases against European soldiers can be seldom proved for want of correct evidence. Under these circumstances the writer says that some effectual means should be devised by Government for preventing European soldiers from committing crimes against the Natives of this country. As a provisional measure, the writer suggests that a rule should be made allowing no European soldiers to leave his barrack or cantonment without being guarded by some officer whom he really fears and is bound to obey.

SOM PRAKASH, January 8th, 1883.

Relief of the Deccan ryots.

11. The same paper says that the best way of relieving the indebted peasantry of Deccan is to settle their rent once for all on a sound basis, to dig canals where water is wanted, and construct drains where too much water accumulates, to grant loans from the Government treasury to those tenants who require them at a rate of interest not exceeding 6 per cent., &c. The measures proposed in Mr. Hope's Bill may be good in their own way, but they will not be far-reaching or sufficiently effectual.

SOM PRAKASH.

Abolition of sub-division Baripur, in zillah 24-Pergunnahs.

12. The same paper condemns the intention of the Bengal Government to abolish the Baripur sub-division in zillah 24-Pergunnahs. It is not true, the writer says, that cases in this sub-division are very few. The sub-divisional officer, who had himself once reported to Government to that effect, is now of a different opinion. The number of low riotous people in the sub-division is very large, and their crimes will increase if the sub-divisional office is abolished. Besides, 6,000 people have memorialised Government for the maintenance of the sub-division: Government ought not therefore to abolish it.

SOM PRAKASH.

The Pubna case.

13. The *Navavibhakur* of 8th January characterises the proceedings of Mr. Rattray, District Superintendent of Police, Pubna, on the occasion of the enforcement of a decree against the Pubna zemindar, Azimuddin, as having been in the highest degree illegal, unprovoked, and arbitrary, and argues that the view taken of those proceedings by the Magistrate of Pubna is erroneous and one-sided.

NAVAVIBHAKAR, January 8th, 1883.

Officiating appointment of Director of Public Instruction.

14. The same paper says that Babu Bhudeb Mukharji, and not Mr. Bellett, ought to have been appointed to officiate for Mr. Croft as Director of Public Instruction. That Babu Bhudeb has not been appointed is simply because he is a Bengali.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

Tramway from Howrah to Amptah.

15. The same paper thinks favorably of the proposed steam tramway from Howrah to Amptah.

NAVAVIBHAKAR.

Rumours about the proposed rent-law for Bengal.

16. The *Bharat Mihir* of the 9th January notices several rumours that are current among the ignorant ryots of East Bengal regarding the proposed rent-law. In some places the ryots believe that on the passing of the new law they will have to pay no rent for their homesteads,

BHARAT MIHIR January 9th, 1883.

and that only a rent of eight annas a bigha will have to be paid for the lands they cultivate. In other places the rumour is that the ryots will not have to pay any rent to the zemindars. It would be enough if they met the revenue demands of Government. Everywhere there is a strong conviction that on the passing of the new law the zemindars will have nothing to do with the land. They will become pensioners, while the ryots will take up the position of talukdars.

BHARAT MIHIR, January 9th, 1883.

The Arms Act.

17. The same paper is sorry to find that no steps are being taken for the repeal of the Arms Act. It is one of those measures which have been condemned strongly by the liberal party, and the people of this country have clearly given expression to their views regarding it. The evils it is producing and its political effect are also well known. Why, then, does not Lord Ripon repeal it? If it be allowed to remain on the statute book, people will think that the liberals are no better than their adversaries. They raise a party cry when it suits their purpose, but they do not carry out their pledges when they are in office.

BHARAT MIHIR.

Appointment of officiating Director of Public Instruction.

18. The same paper takes exception to the appointment of Mr. Bellett as Officiating Director of Public Instruction in supersession of the claims of Babu Bhudeb Mukharji.

SAHACHAR, January 10th, 1883.

Indian officers in England.

19. The *Sahachar* of the 10th January remarks that the cordial reception given to the officers of the Indian army in England has filled the people of India with delight. When Mr. Gladstone met the officers, he told them that he relied as much upon their strength and loyalty as upon those of British troops; and wherever they went, they were heartily cheered. Such kind treatment received in England by the Indians who happen to visit that country has produced a conviction that the people of England will never consciously do any wrong to this country. The interests of England and India are identical. It is as much the duty of the people of India as that of England to keep the British empire intact. If the visit of the Indian officers to England has shown that the people of England really love the people of this country, the visit has not been in vain.

SAHACHAR.

The Indian Civil Service Examination.

20. The same paper, referring to the Indian Civil Service examination, observes that Lord Salisbury has done a great wrong to India by reducing the limit of age. In order to appear at the examination at the age of nineteen, one must leave this country at the age of fifteen or sixteen. It is quite impracticable for a Bengali or any other Indian to leave his parents and friends and go to such a distant land at so early an age. The editor, therefore, supports a memorial which the Indian Association of Calcutta has recently addressed to the present Secretary of State for India on the subject, praying (1) that the limit of age for the candidates be raised to 22, and (2) that the open competitive examination for the Indian Civil Service be held at several Indian centres simultaneously with the examination in England.

SAMACHAR.

Howrah and Ampta steam tramway.

21. The same paper supports a petition which the inhabitants of the Howrah district have presented to the Commissioner of the Burdwan Division on the subject of constructing a steam tramway from Howrah to Ampta with a branch to Jagatballabhpore. Such a line, it is thought, will secure a good passenger and goods traffic, and thus prove remunerative.

22. A correspondent of the same paper draws the attention of Government to the necessity of establishing a Sub-Registry Office at Haludbari. The matter was brought to the notice of the sub-divisional officer of Contai, but he said that he saw no reasons for opening such an office. If that officer or the Collector of the district will make a local enquiry, he will find that the establishment of the office at Haludbari will greatly benefit the people of the adjacent localities.

SAHACHAR, January 10th, 1883.

Necessity of opening a Sub-Registry Office at Haludbari.

23. The Editor of the *Balasore Sambad Bahika*, of the 21st December 1882, in an article headed "There is no Escape from the Ravages of Malarious Fever," expatiates on the severe mortality which this fever has produced in Balasore since 1878. The writer of the above paper says that the fever is at present raging in Balasore, and has carried off about 20 victims. The inhabitants of the town have not yet been able to indentify with due precision the symptoms which show themselves before such fever sets in. Hence the fever-stricken people, for want of proper medical treatment die of its effects without exception. The Editor further predicts that as soon as the construction of the Coast Canal is finished, numbers of people will fall a prey to the fatal effects of this fever. It is true, says the Editor, that Government is interested in bringing the canal system into operation in view of the development of the trade of Orissa, but it is earnestly to be hoped that before doing so Government should adopt such precautionary measures as would secure the country from its concomitant evils.

BALASORE SAMBAD BAHIKA, December 21st, 1882.

Malarious fever.

24. The Editor of the *Utkal Dipika* of the 23rd December 1882, in an article on "Puri Municipality," says that it is gratifying to note the exertions made by the Puri Committee in supplying the primary wants of the town, viz. the water-supply and the construction of side drains for the removal of filthy water. In order to give effect to these projects, the Committee have proposed to provide funds for securing the services of a competent Engineer. The Editor in conclusion says, that while the Cuttack Municipality is squandering away its money on illuminations and other useless works, the Puri Committee is attending to the real wants of the town, and it is to be hoped that the Cuttack Municipal authorities will endeavour to learn a better lesson from its neighbouring Municipality, and not be fond of following vain pursuits.

UTKAL DIPIKA, December 23rd, 1882.

Puri Municipality.

25. The same paper, in an article on "Excise Revenue," observes as follows:—"The increase in excise revenue is likely to prove a source of distress to the people generally, while the reduction of duty on exciseable articles will, it is vainly imagined, materially benefit those who are habitually addicted to intoxicating drugs."

UTKAL DIPIKA.

Excise revenue.

26. The same paper has an article on the proposal to start a newspaper which has emanated from the Vice-Chairman and Commissioners of the Municipality. The writer thinks that the above is unnecessary, as its object might be served by the *Government Gazette* and local paper, and ironically says:—We hope that the Government will not regard this as a violation of the municipal law, nor fail to praise the Municipal Commissioners for this great conception. It would be a failure of duty not to mention the names of the Commissioners who sat, and with one mind approved of the Vice-Chairman's wonderful proposition. Here follows a list of the names. Among these is a Barrister and Government Pleader with the Vice-Chairman, who is a Barrister and Joint-Magistrate. It is not easy to believe that those who are always engaged in discussing laws did not understand municipal laws.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

Cuttack Municipal Times.

BALASORE SAPTAHIK SAMBAD BAHIKA, December 28th, 1882.

The Mohurbhunj Manager.

27. The *Balasore Saptahik Sambad Bahika* of the 28th December 1882, says—Wylly Sahib is an active, courageous, and respectable person. He, through his extended intercourse with the Uryas of the Mofussil, has gained much experience. Hence we hope that he may satisfactorily discharge the duties of the Mohurbhunj managership and have regard to the happiness of the Rajah's family.

UTKAL DIPIKA, December 30th, 1882.

The Manjusa Rajah's sons.

28. The *Utkal Dipika* of the 30th December writes :—The three sons of the Manjusa Rajah, who are visiting various parts of India, are expected to arrive at Cuttack to-day. In our supplement we give an account of the various cities which they have visited, from which it will be known that travelling in different countries is the chief means of education. We cannot easily describe how much benefit might be derived by the sons of Orissa Rajahs following this example.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

Another means of benefiting the natives of India.

29. The same paper refers to the permission granted to Lalla Gunga Prasad to proceed to England, and the orders of the Secretary of State for India that, as an experiment, two Native Assistant Engineers shall be permitted each year, for the next three years, to proceed to England to complete their studies. The writer says :—We express our special gratitude to Government for having thus made this arrangement for the instruction of native engineers, and trust that they will lose no time in availing themselves of its benefits.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

Cuttack Municipal Times.

30. The same paper, referring to the proposed Cuttack newspaper, says:—We pronounce this work of the Municipality not only to be contrary to law and justice, but also unnecessary and mischievous, as will appear from the following reasons :—

1*st*.—It is contrary to law. Section 61 of Act 5 of 1876, clearly makes known the works on which municipal funds are to be expended. According to this, Commissioners have no right to expend money on a newspaper or on any business. To consent to this is a misuse of the funds entrusted to them.

2*nd*.—It is improper for Government to interfere in the private trade and enterprise of the people, now that Government, in order to promote private trade, are adopting measures to remove from jails everything that interferes with it. Under these circumstances for any municipality to be allowed to set up any business would be improper.

3*rd*.—The above paper is quite unnecessary. Mr. Ravenshaw, the late Commissioner of this district, gave orders that the proceedings of the Municipality should be published in the local *Urya Gazette*. In accordance with this, the proceedings of the Puri Municipality have up to the present time been printed in the Gazette. Either through indolence or not being thought necessary, no report of the doings of the Balasore or Cuttack Municipality has been published. If the Cuttack Municipality wished it, they could easily now have a report of their proceedings and notices printed in the Gazette.

4*th*.—How can that which is contrary to law and justice and is unnecessary be anything but injurious? Government has again and again confessed that it is its duty to encourage the local press, and it has been decided to supply the local papers with information in regard to Government measures. Should, however, one of the Chief Government officers of the district start a paper, and through his official authority collect by means of his subordinates all the news in which the public are interested, and publish it, how

are other newspapers to maintain their position? Whatever may be the real object of issuing this paper, we surmise that its appearance will be injurious to us. If Mr. Manisty were at his own expense to publish this paper and subsequently kindly to make over all the profits to the Municipality, we could not blame him, but rather would rejoice to see the good thus conferred on the public. To speak plainly, no one is ignorant of the profits gained hitherto by Urya newspapers. What the final result of a new paper will be may be also anticipated.

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Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,
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